



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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INTERIOR APPROVES WATERFOWL HUNTING DATES SET BY STATES

Regulations approving 1960-1961 migratory waterfowl hunting dates as selected by State game administrators in accordance with the hunting regulations prescribed by the Department of the Interior August 15, were announced by Secretary Fred A. Seaton. The regulations will appear in the Federal Register in the near future.

Official copies of the regulations will be distributed by the Fish and Wildlife Service as will a special digest, for ready reference, designed particularly for the use of the waterfowl hunter.

Because of the many options allowed States in this year's framework, there is considerable variation in dates and limits. The outside dates, within which the States were permitted to select their seasons, are: Waterfowl and coots (except brant in the Pacific Flyway)--October 7, 1960, to January 8, 1961, both dates inclusive; brant in the Pacific Flyway--November 20, 1960, to January 31, 1961, both dates inclusive; in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands from November 1, 1960, to February 15, 1961, both dates inclusive.

The framework provided that there could be no shooting of canvasback or red-head ducks in any of the four flyways. The purpose of these restrictions is to give these two species an opportunity to respond to the expected improved conditions on the nesting grounds next year.

There was also provided an experimental 30-day hunting season on the lesser sandhill crane in a limited area in Texas and New Mexico. The dates were fixed at January 1 to January 30, 1961. A third noteworthy item in the framework was a special goose regulation to protect an important flock of Canada geese in the Mississippi Flyway from excessive hunting pressure.

Other features of interest in the framework included an optional plan on seasons and bag limits in all flyways; split seasons of equal or unequal length and shooting from half an hour before sunrise to sunset.

Several States selected a shorter goose season than that allowed under the framework. A special Mississippi Flyway goose regulation provided that when the combined kill of Canada geese in Dodge, Fond du Lac, and Juneau counties of Wisconsin reached 7,000, the Director of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife would close the season by giving public notice which would be publicized through the local informational media. The regulation also provided that when the combined Canada goose kill in Alexander, Union, and Williamson counties in Illinois reached 14,000 the Director would similarly close the season in those counties. At the request of the Illinois game officials, Jackson county was added to the list and the total kill limit remains at 14,000.

While the bag and possession limits on ducks vary, depending upon the flyway and the option taken by individual States, the daily bag and possession limits of some species are the same in all States. In the daily bag and possession limits there can not be more than one hooded merganser. However, in addition to the bag limits of other ducks, hunters in any State may have a daily bag limit of 5 and a possession limit of 10 American or redbreasted mergansers, singly or in the aggregate of both kinds.

The daily bag limit is 6 and the possession limit is 12 coots in the Atlantic, Mississippi and Central Flyways. The daily bag and possession limit on coots and gallinules in the Pacific Flyway is 25 singly or in the aggregate of both kinds.

The hunting hours (all based on Standard time) are from one half hour before sunrise to sunset, except that the shooting of ducks and coots starts at 12 noon on the opening day of the season and, if the season is split, on the opening day of the second part; and that when the goose, brant, or Wilson snipe seasons open on the same day that the duck and coot season opens, shooting will be from noon to sunset on these three species. However, if the goose season is already in progress when duck season opens, goose, brant and Wilson's snipe shooting that day will be from half an hour before sunrise to sunset.

A summary of the dates and bag limits other than the above, is attached.

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ATLANTIC FLYWAY

STATE	DUCKS & COOTS	GEESE & BRANT (Except Snow Geese)	LIMITS							
			Ducks ^{a/}		Coots		Geese		Brant	
			Day	Poss.	Day	Poss.	Day	Poss.	Day	Poss.
Conn.	Oct.22-Nov.5 Dec.9-Jan.7	Oct.22-Nov.14 Dec.9-Jan.7	3	6	6	12	2	4	8	8
Del.	Nov.9-Dec.28	Nov.9-Jan.7	3	6	6	12	2	4	8	8
D.C.	Closed Season	Closed Season	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fla.	Dec.2-Jan.8	Nov.19-Jan.8	4	8	6	12	2	4	8	8
Ga.	Nov.29-Jan.7	Nov.9-Jan.7	4	8	6	12	2	4	8	8
Me.	Oct.7-Oct.29 Nov.19-Dec.10	Oct.7-Dec.5	3	6	6	12	2	4	8	8
Mi.	Nov.19-Jan.7	Nov.9-Jan.7	3	6	6	12	2	4	8	8
Mass ^{a/}	Oct.29-Nov.26 Dec.16-Dec.31	Oct.24-Dec.22	3 ^{a/}	6 ^{a/}	6	12	2	4	8	8
N.H.	Oct.15-Dec.3	Oct.15-Dec.13	3	6	6	12	2	4	8	8
N.J.	Nov.19-Jan.7	Oct.22-Dec.20	3	6	6	12	2	4	8	8
N.Y. ^{b/} (L.I.) ^{c/}	Oct.14-Dec.2 ^{b/} Nov.19-Jan.7	Oct.14-Dec.12 ^{b/} Oct.22-Dec.20	3	6	6	12	2	4	8	8
N.C.	Nov.19-Jan.7	Nov.9-Jan.7	3	6	6	12	2	4	8	8
Pa. ^{a/d/}	Oct.22-Dec.10 ^{d/}	Oct.22-Dec.10 ^{d/}	3 ^{a/}	6 ^{a/}	6	12	2	4	8	8
R.I.	Nov.20-Jan.8	Nov.20-Jan.8	3	6	6	12	2	4	8	8
S.C.	Nov.29-Jan.7	Nov.9-Jan.7	4	8	6	12	2	4	8	8
Vt.	Oct.7-Nov.25	Oct.7-Dec.5	3	6	6	12	2	4	8	8
Va.	Nov.19-Jan.7	Nov.9-Jan.7	3	6	6	12	2	4	8	8
W.Va.	Oct.25-Nov.5 Dec.6-Jan.7	Oct.25-Nov.14 Dec.6-Jan.7	3	6	6	12	2	4	8	8

ATLANTIC FLYWAY

a/ In all States in the flyway except Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, the daily bag and possession limits may include only 2 wood ducks. In Massachusetts, the daily bag may include only 1 wood duck. In Pennsylvania, the daily bag and possession limit may include not more than 1 wood duck.

b/ Regulations for that part of Westchester County lying south of the Hutchinson River Parkway will be the same as those for Long Island.

c/ Long Island

d/ In the counties of Bucks, Philadelphia, and Delaware, and the Delaware River bordering on such counties, the seasons for ducks and coots will be Nov.19-Jan.7; for geese and brant, Oct.22-Dec.20.

SEA DUCKS (Scoters, eiders, old-squaw)

Bag limits: 7 daily, 14 possession.

Seasons: In open coastal waters beyond outer harbor lines of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, and Rhode Island, Oct.1-Jan.8. In other parts of those States and in all other Atlantic Flyway States, these species may be taken only during open season for other ducks.

MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY

STATE	DUCKS & COOTS	GEESE	LIMITS					
			Ducks ^a /Coots		Geese ^b			
			Day	Poss.	Day	Poss.	Day	Poss.
Ala.	Nov.23-Jan.1	Oct.31-Jan.8	4	8	6	12	5	5
Ark.	Nov.23-Jan.1	Oct.31-Jan.8	4	8	6	12	5	5
Ill. ^c /	Oct.28-Dec.6	Oct.28-Jan.5 ^c /	4	8	6	12	5 ^c /	5 ^c /
Ind.	Nov.4-Nov.26 Dec.16-Jan.6	Oct.21-Dec.29	3	6	6	12	5	5
Ia.	Oct.15-Dec.3	Oct.8-Dec.16	3	6	6	12	5	5
Ky.	Nov.30-Jan.8	Oct.31-Jan.8	4	8	6	12	5	5
Ia. ^d / _e /	Nov.4-Nov.15 ^d / _e / Dec.16-Jan.8	See Footnotes ^d / _e /	4 ^d /	8 ^d /	6	12	5	5
Mich.	Oct.7-Nov.15	Oct.7-Dec.15	4	8	6	12	5	5
Minn.	Oct.8-Nov.16	Oct.8-Dec.16	4	8	6	12	5	5
Miss. ^f /	Nov.19-Jan.7 ^f /	Oct.30-Jan.7 ^f /	3 ^f /	6 ^f /	6	12	5	5
Mo.	Nov.1-Dec.20	Oct.14-Dec.22	3	6	6	12	5	5
Ohio ^g /	Oct.20-Nov.24 ^g / Dec.23-Dec.31	Oct.20-Dec.28 ^g /	3	6	6	12	5 ^g /	5 ^g /
Tenn.	Nov.30-Jan.8	Oct.31-Jan.8	4	8	6	12	5	5
Wis. ^h /	Oct.7-Nov.25	Oct.7-Dec.15 ^h /	3	6	6	12	5 ^h /	5 ^h /

MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY

a/ In all States in the flyway, the daily bag or possession limit may not include more than 1 wood duck.

b/ In all States except Illinois and Wisconsin, daily bag and possession limits of 5 geese may not include more than 2 Canada geese or subspecies, 2 white-fronted geese, or 1 Canada goose or subspecies and 1 white-fronted goose.

c/ In Illinois, daily bag and possession limits of 5 geese may not include more than 1 Canada goose or subspecies, or 1 Canada goose or subspecies and 1 white-fronted goose, or 2 white-fronted geese. In counties of Alexander, Jackson, Union, and Williamson, goose season will be closed when kill of Canada geese reaches 14,000 birds in those 4 counties. Check State regulations on shooting hour restrictions. They also limit goose season in 4 counties to Nov.1-Dec.15, and elsewhere in State to Oct.28-Dec.6.

d/ For that part of Louisiana east of center of main channel of Mississippi River and between northern boundary of State and latitude 31°N, open season for ducks and coots is Nov.19-Jan.7, and for geese Oct.30-Jan.7; daily bag and possession limits are 3 and 6 for ducks. Other limits unchanged here.

e/ In Louisiana, except in area listed in footnote d/ open season dates for geese are: Canada and white-fronted geese, Nov.4-Nov.15 and Dec.16-Jan.8; blue and snow geese, Oct.31-Jan.8.

MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY (contd.)

f/ For that part of State of Mississippi west of center of main channel of Mississippi River from northern boundary of Louisiana to latitude 31°N , open season for ducks and coots and Canada and white-fronted geese is Nov. 4-Nov. 15 and Dec. 16-Jan. 8, and season for blue and snow geese is Oct. 31-Jan. 8; daily bag and possession limits for ducks are 4 and 8. Other limits unchanged here.

g/ For that part of Ohio in Pymatuning Reservoir and for $\frac{1}{4}$ mile in any direction from that reservoir, open season for ducks, coots, and geese is Oct. 22-Dec. 10. In this area, for geese the daily bag is 2 and possession limit, 4. For ducks, they are the same as elsewhere in Ohio.

h/ In Wisconsin, daily bag and possession limits of 5 geese may not include more than 1 Canada goose or subspecies, or 1 Canada goose or subspecies and 1 white-fronted goose, or 2 white-fronted geese. In counties of Dodge, Fond du Lac, and Juneau only, the goose season will be closed when the kill of Canada geese in these 3 counties reaches 7,000 birds.

CENTRAL FLYWAY

STATE	DUCKS & COOTS	GEESE (Except Ross's Geese)	Ducks ^{a/}		LIMITS			
			Day	Poss.	Coots		Geese ^{b/}	
					Day	Poss.	Day	Poss.
Colo. ^{c/}	Oct.26-Dec.24	Oct.26-Jan.8	3	6	6	12	5 ^{c/}	5 ^{c/}
Kans.	Oct.15-Dec.13	Oct.7-Dec.20	3	6	6	12	5	5
Mont. ^{d/}	Oct.8-Nov.26	Oct.8-Nov.26	4	8	6	12	5 ^{d/}	5 ^{d/}
Nebr.	Oct.8-Nov.26	Oct.8-Dec.21	4	8	6	12	5	5
N.M. ^{e/}	Nov.20-Jan.8	Nov.20-Jan.8	4 ^{e/}	8 ^{e/}	6	12	5	5
N.D.	Oct.7-Nov.25	Oct.7-Nov.25	4	8	6	12	5	5
Okla.	Oct.20-Dec.18	Oct.14-Dec.27	3	6	6	12	5	5
S.D.	Oct.7-Nov.25	Oct.7-Dec.10	4	8	6	12	5	5
Tex. ^{f/}	Nov.11-Dec.30	Oct.26-Jan.8	4 ^{f/}	8 ^{f/}	6	12	5	5
Wyo. ^{g/}	Oct.15-Dec.13	Oct.15-Dec.28	3	6	6	12	5 ^{g/}	5 ^{g/}

CENTRAL FLYWAY

- a/ In all States, except as noted below, only 1 wood duck in daily and possession limit.
- b/ In all States, except as noted below, daily bag and possession limit of geese may not include more than 1 white-fronted goose, or 1 white-fronted goose and 1 Canada goose or subspecies, or 2 Canada geese or subspecies.
- c/ In Moffat County, Colorado, daily bag or possession limit may not include more than 1 Canada goose or subspecies.
- d/ In Beaverhead, Gallatin, and Madison Counties, Montana, no open season on snow and blue geese.
- e/ No open season on wood ducks in New Mexico.
- f/ No open season on black-bellied tree ducks in Texas.
- g/ No open season on snow and blue geese in Wyoming.

PACIFIC FLYWAY

STATE	DUCKS, COOTS & GALLINULES	GEESE (Except Ross's Geese)	BRANT	LIMITS							
				Ducks ^{a/}		Coots & Gall ^{i/}		Geese ^{b/}		Brant	
				Day	Poss.	Day	Poss.	Day	Poss.	Day	Poss.
Ariz <u>c/d/e/</u>	Oct.11-Jan.8	Oct.11-Jan.8 ^{e/}	No Season	4	8	25 ^{g/}	25 ^{g/}	6 ^{d/}	6 ^{d/}	-	-
Calif <u>d/e/h/</u>	Oct.15-Nov.20 ^{h/} Dec.10-Jan.8	Oct.15-Nov.20 ^{e/h/} Dec.10-Jan.8	Dec.3-Jan.31	6 ^{h/}	6 ^{h/}	25	25	6 ^{d/}	6 ^{d/}	3	3
Idaho <u>f/g/</u>	Oct.11-Jan.8	Oct.8-Jan.8	No Season	5	5	25	25	6 ^{g/}	6 ^{g/}	-	-
Nev. <u>b/d/e/h/</u>	Oct.15-Jan.8 ^{h/}	Oct.15-Jan.8 ^{e/h/}	No Season	4 ^{h/}	8 ^{h/}	25	25	6 ^{h/}	6 ^{h/}	-	-
Ore.	Oct.11-Jan.8	Oct.11-Jan.8	Dec.3-Jan.31	4	8	25	25	6	6	3	3
Utah <u>d/</u>	Oct.8-Jan.5	Oct.8-Jan.8	No Season	5	5	25	25	6 ^{d/}	6 ^{d/}	-	-
Wash.	Oct.8-Jan.5	Oct.8-Jan.5	Dec.3-Jan.31	4	8	25	25	3	3	3	3

PACIFIC FLXWAY

- a/ Only 1 wood duck in daily and possession limits.
- b/ Only 3 of the dark species in daily and possession limits, except in Nevada where it is not more than 2.
- c/ Closed season on gallinules in Arizona.
- d/ Mohave and Yuma Counties, Arizona; California Fish and Game Dist. No. 22; Utah; Nevada Counties of Clark, Douglas, Storey, Ormsby, and Washoe County south of the Flanigan-Sutcliffe-Wadsworth road, and the Lake Mead area of Nevada referred to in footnote h/ daily bag and possession limits may not include more than 1 Canada goose or subspecies.
- e/ Clark County, Nevada; Yuma and Mohave Counties, Arizona; and California Fish and Game Dist. No. 22, season on Canada geese or subspecies closes sunset, Dec.18,1960.
- f/ Bear Lake, Caribou, and Bonneville Counties, Idaho, daily bag and possession limits may not include more than 2 Canada geese or subspecies.
- g/ No open season on snow geese in Idaho Counties of Clark, Fremont, Madison, and Teton.
- h/ In California's Tule Lake area and lower Colorado River area, and Nevada's Lake Mead area, the duck-geese-coot-gallinule season is Oct.11-Jan.8, and duck limits are 4 daily and 8 in possession. Consult complete waterfowl regulations for exact boundaries of these areas.
- i/ 25 coot-gallinule bag is singly or in aggregate of both kinds.